

App. No. 09/663,811
Amendment Dated February 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action of October 4, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9-22 are pending. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

All of the pending claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 for obviousness based on U.S. Patent No. 5,469,556 (hereinafter *Clifton*) in combination with two or more other references. The Office Action cites *Clifton* column 3, line 54 to column 4, line 8 as disclosing an owner domain. Applicants respectfully traverse.

As discussed in responses to previous Office Actions for this application, Applicants respectfully assert that *Clifton* does not teach or suggest an owner domain. The cited portion of *Clifton* is provided below for convenience.

The resource access security system of the present invention performs the translation of a descriptor by use of a user/job information table, including a plurality of user/job entries, each having stored therein a user/job pointer which points to a base address of a domain table to which the user/job has the privilege of access, a plurality of domain tables, each including a plurality of domain entries, wherein each domain entry has stored therein a domain pointer which points to a base address of a page table and a plurality of page tables, each having a plurality of pages wherein each page has stored therein a base address of a resource in the address space of the data processing computer to which access is sought.

The user/job table referenced above is used to obtain user/job information related to the requested resource and related to the user or job seeking access to the resource. The user/job information points to *a domain table containing the privilege levels or domains to which the user or job has the privilege of access. The domain tables are used to obtain the particular domain or privilege level of the user or job.* The page tables are used to obtain the page of resources included in the identified domain. (emphasis added)

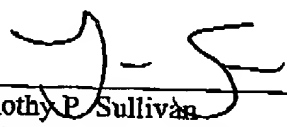
As can be seen by the emphasized portion of the cited *Clifton* text, the domain table contains privilege levels or domains of a user or job. A domain of a user or job is not equivalent to an owner domain, as recited in the claims. An owner of an object may grant permissions related to that object (see Specification, page 10, lines 18-21). The cited portion of *Clifton* has no mention of the concept of an owner, and therefore cannot teach or suggest an owner domain.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that a Prima Facie case of obviousness has not been made because each and every element of the claims is not found in the cited references.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.


Timothy P. Sullivan
Registration No. 47,981
Direct Dial: 206.342.6254

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
206.342.6200

